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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A film coating composition suitable for use in coating pharmaceutical formulations, wherein the composition comprises a dispersion comprising:

- a) an ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer;
 - b) an anti-sticking agent, which is glyceryl monostearate (GMS);
 - c) a surface active agent, wherein the surface active agent is present in an amount less than 1.3 % by weight of the dispersion; and
 - d) a water-containing liquid,
- wherein;

the dispersion does not contain a vinyl acetate polymer;

the surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants; ampholytic surfactants; anionic surfactants; soaps, fatty acids and lipids and their salts; and

when the surface active agent is a nonionic surfactant, the nonionic surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of sorbitan esters, polysorbates, polyoxyethylated glycol monoethers, polyoxyethylated alkyl phenols, alkyl glucosides, sugar fatty acid esters; saponins, and mixtures thereof.

2. (Currently amended) A film coat covering a pharmaceutical core, wherein the core comprises a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, and wherein the film coat comprises:

- a) an ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer;
 - b) an anti-sticking agent, which is glyceryl monostearate (GMS); and
 - c) a surface active agent, wherein the surface active agent is present in an amount of less than 5.4 % by weight of the weight of the film coat, and
- wherein;

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the film coat has been deposited on the pharmaceutical core from a water-containing liquid and does not contain a vinyl acetate polymer;

the surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants; ampholytic surfactants; anionic surfactants; soaps, fatty acids and lipids and their salts; and

when the surface active agent is a nonionic surfactant, the nonionic surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of sorbitan esters, polysorbates, polyoxyethylated glycol monoethers, polyoxyethylated alkyl phenols, alkyl glucosides, sugar fatty acid esters; saponins, and mixtures thereof.

3. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising:

- a) a pharmaceutical core comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, and
- b) a film coat covering the pharmaceutical core, wherein the film coat comprises:
 - i) an ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer;
 - ii) an anti-sticking agent, which is glyceryl monostearate (GMS); and
 - iii) a surface active agent, wherein the surface active agent is present in an amount of less than 5.4 % by weight of the weight of the film coat, andwherein;

the film coat has been deposited on the pharmaceutical core from a water-containing liquid and does not contain a vinyl acetate polymer;

the surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants; ampholytic surfactants; anionic surfactants; soaps, fatty acids, and lipids and their salts; and

when the surface active agent is a nonionic surfactant, the nonionic surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of sorbitan esters, polysorbates, polyoxyethylated glycol

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monoethers, polyoxyethylated alkyl phenols, alkyl glucosides, sugar fatty acid esters; saponins, and mixtures thereof.

4. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a plurality of beads containing a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein each of the beads is coated with a film coat comprising:

- a) an ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer;
- b) an anti-sticking agent, which is glyceryl monostearate (GMS); and
- c) a surface active agent, wherein the surface active agent is present in an amount of less than 5.4 % by weight of the weight of the film coat, and

wherein:

the film coat has been deposited on the beads from a water-containing liquid and does not contain a vinyl acetate polymer;

the surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants; ampholytic surfactants; anionic surfactants; soaps, fatty acids and lipids and their salts; and

when the surface active agent is a nonionic surfactant, the nonionic surface active agent is selected from the group consisting of sorbitan esters, polysorbates, polyoxyethylated glycol monoethers, polyoxyethylated alkyl phenols, alkyl glucosides, sugar fatty acid esters; saponins, and mixtures thereof.

5. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the formulation is a modified release formulation.

6. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 5, wherein the pharmacologically active ingredient has activity in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases.

7. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 6, wherein the pharmacologically active ingredient is a beta-blocking adrenergic agent.

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8. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 7, wherein the pharmacologically active ingredient is metoprolol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. (Previously presented) The formulation according to claim 8, wherein the metoprolol salt is a tartrate, succinate, fumarate, or benzoate salt.

10. (Previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the liquid is water.

11. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a film coating composition according to claim 1, the process comprising mixing together the ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer, the anti-sticking agent, the surface active agent, and the liquid at a temperature in the range of 10 to 100°C to form a dispersion.

12. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in claim 3, comprising coating the pharmaceutical core with a film coating composition, wherein the composition comprises a dispersion comprising:

- a) an ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer;
- b) an anti-sticking agent, which is glyceryl monostearate (GMS);
- c) a surface active agent wherein the surface active agent is present in an amount less than 1.3 % by weight of the dispersion; and
- d) a water-containing liquid, and

wherein the dispersion does not contain a vinyl acetate polymer.

13. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 4, the process comprising coating each of the plurality of beads with a film coating composition, wherein the composition comprises a dispersion comprising:

- a) an ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer;
- b) an anti-sticking agent, which is glyceryl monostearate (GMS);
- c) a surface active agent wherein the surface active agent is present in an amount less than 1.3 % by weight of the dispersion; and
- d) a water-containing liquid, and

wherein the dispersion does not contain a vinyl acetate polymer.

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14. (Previously presented) The film coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer is Eudragit[®] NE30D.

15. (Previously presented) The film coat according to claim 2, wherein the ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer is Eudragit[®] NE30D.

16. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymer is Eudragit[®] NE30D.